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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF LYNDEBOROUGH,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1ST, 1873.

NASHUA:
MOORE & LANGLEY, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
1872.

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REPORT.

The Selectmen and Treasurer respectfully present to the town of Lyndeborough their Annual Reports of the receipts and expenditures for the financial year ending March 1, 1873.

Amount of taxes assessed April 1, 1872,		$6,098 49
Paid by Collector State tax,	$711 00	
by Collector County Tax,	448 51	
		$1,159 51
Ordered into the treasury		$4,938 98

RECEIPTS.

Balance in the treasury March 1, 1872,	$503 65	
Received of Collector David G. Dickey,	3,634 12	
Collector Tarbell, balance of tax,	1,432 87	
Collector Tarbell, tax interest	57 10	
State, Savings Bank Tax,	298 82	
State, Railroad tax,	57 19	
State, Literary Fund,	80 50	
Received for town bonds sold,	800 00	
on notes,	533 82	
interest on Israel Cram fund,	24 00	
interest on School fund,	77 27	
of State bonds and cash,	6,283 33	
interest on State bonds,	257 60	
of Peterborough R. R. Company damage for closing road,	143 00	
		$14, 183 27

EXPENDITURES.

Paid School District No. 1,	$130 00	
" " " 2,	108 81	
" " " 3,	144 50	
" " " 4,	66 35	
" " " 5,	90 56	
" " " 6,	40 00	
" " " 7,	117 20	
" " " 8,	55 80	
" " " 9,	53 81	
" " " 10,	52 81	
		$859 84
Paid notes and interest,	4,632 29	
Interest on town bonds,	806 50	
D. H. Wood, Treasurer Peterboro' R. R.,	3,000 00	
for breaking roads in the spring of 1872,	17 75	
" " winter of 1872–73,	461 49	
for repairing roads and bridges,	47 39	
for non-resident tax worked out,	140 42	
on law-suit with Farrer, Bridge case,	520 80	
Jonathan Stephenson, Overseer of Poor,	452 78	
Abatement of taxes	73 35	
		$10,152 77

MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

Paid Jonathan Danforth, due on report,	$41 75
Luther Cram, " " "	65 50
Nath'l T. McIntire, " " "	40 00
Charles F. Tarbell,	25 00
Printing town reports,	40 37
C. Henry Holt, due on report,	58 60
C. Henry Holt, for stationery,	14 72
W. W. Curtis, " " in 1869,	8 92
John T. Fletcher, for damage to sheep by dogs,	35 00
Daniel Cunningham, for sheep killed,	5 00
David G. Dickey, " " "	10 00
William Starrett, " " "	5 00
William A. Jones, certificates of births and deaths,	4 25
William B. Raymond, Sexton,	7 00
Rufus Chamberlin, "	9 00
David G. Dickey, watering trough,	3 00
Joel H. Tarbell, " "	3 00
William H. Clark, for wood for town house,	3 00

Paid Elias J. Whittemore, services as Superintending School Committee,	$55 00	
Charles F. Tarbell, Collector,	85 00	
		$519 11
Total amount paid out,		$11,531 72

DEMANDS AGAINST THE TOWN.

Notes with interest computed to Mar. 1, 1873	$4,293 14	
Town bonds sold,	15,000 00	
Interest on town bonds to March 1, 1873,	375 00	
		$19,668 14
Due School District No. 1,	$1 05	
" " " 3,	118 17	
" " " 4,	4 85	
" " " 6,	85 70	
" " " 8, school house tax,	30 00	
		$239 77
Paid C. Henry Holt for services as Selectman,	$61 00	
Luther Cram,	63 50	
Wilks H. Hadley,	50 00	
N. T. McIntire, Treasurer,	40 00	
N. T. McIntire, cash paid out,	5 00	
Charles F. Tarbell, Town Clerk,	25 00	
		$244 50
Total amount of town debt,		$20,152 41

NOTES DUE THE TOWN WITH INTEREST COMPUTED TO MARCH 1, 1873.

George E. Spalding,	$2,073 43	
Martin Whitney,	111 87	
Emery Holt,	663 37	
Luther Cram,	600 00	
Benjamin G. Herrick,	155 00	
S. S. Cummings' order,	23 75	
State bonds unsold,	1,600 00	
Due from Collector Dickey,	1,295 83	
Interest on State bonds to March 1,	16 00	
Cash in the treasury,	1,027 80	
		$7,567 05

Total amount of town debt,	$20,152 41	
Amount due from Collector and others,	7,567 05	
Town debt less available means,		$12,585 36
Town debt less available means Mar. 1, 1872	$17,013 67	
" " " " " " 1873,	12,585 36	
Town debt reduced in the year ending Mar. 1, 1873,		$4,428 31
The town received from the State bounty money,	$6,283 33	
Gave the Peterborough Railroad Co.	3,000 00	
Which taken from the amount received leaves	$3,283 33	
Which taken from $4,418 31 shows the am't the town debt has been reduced from the taxes assessed April, 1872, which is	$1,144 98	
To which should justly be added the am't of two Notes that have been paid, amounting to	$400 00	
Which by mistake were not reckoned in the indebtedness in 1872, which makes the amount paid in the year ending March 1, 1873,	$1,544 98	

Submitted March 11, 1873.

C. HENRY HOLT,
LUTHER CRAM,
WILKS H. HADLEY, } *Selectmen of Lyndeborough.*

NATHANIEL T. McINTIRE, *Treasurer.*

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

Report of the Overseers of the Poor for the Town of Lyndeborough, for the year ending March 1, 1873.

CASH PAID OUT.

For the board of Elizabe th Woodward,	$65 00	
H. E. Carkin, Doctor's bill,	12 98	
Lafayette Herrick and family,	81 02	
John P. Raymond and family,	42 25	
Abbott boy, Doctor's bill,	7 50	
John Langdell,	70 45	
David Gage,	119 15	
		$398 35
J. Stephenson, cash advanced and expenses,	19 35	
J. Stephenson, Overseer of Poor,	46 08	
		$65 43
		$463 78

PAID OUT FOR COUNTY PAUPERS.

For Joseph Iganto,	$30 00	
Sarah S. Fish,	52 00	
H. M. Newton,	97 85	
H. Putnam,	142 73	
Transportation,	6 00	
		$328 58
		$792 36
Received of the County	$251 08	
William R. Putnam,	88 50	
		$339 58
Received of Town Treasurer,		$452 78
		$792 36

Submitted March 11, 1873.

JONATHAN STEPHENSON,

Overseer of the Poor.

MORTUARY RECORD FOR 1872.

February	1st,	Andrew Foller,	aged	81	years	and	11	months.
March	22nd,	Hattie Aaria Rose,	"	30	"	"	6	"
"	30th,	Hattie S. Stevens,	"	32	"	"	9	"
May	13th,	Sophronia Clark,	"	56	"	"	3	"
June	19th,	Chas. H. Abbott,	"	11	"	"	4	"
August	7th,	William Gould,	"					
"	9th,	Hannah Putnam,	"	96	"	"	6	"
"	18th,	Mark Newton,	"	42	"	"	3	"
"	22nd,	Infant child of Wm. and Lizzie Felton.						
September	16,	Mary A. Draper,	aged	70	years	and	9	months
"	17,	Eva Belle Steele,	"	1	"	"	3	"
"	21,	Albert J. Kidder,	"	32	"	"	8	"
"	26,	Nancy Gould,	"	70	"	"	1	"
October	11th,	James L. Clark,	"	82	"	"	4	"
"	11th,	Carrie E. Cram,	"	0	"	"	7	"
"	29th,	Rachel P. Kidder,	"	59	"	"	10	"
November	5,	Hannah Carson,	"	83	"	"	0	"
December	19,	Anthony A. Ames,	"	72	"	"	3	"
"	20,	Emily Powers,	"	3	"	"	0	"
"	25,	Timothy Brown,	"	80	"	"	1	"

A true record,

E. J. WHITTEMORE.

REPORT

OF THE

Superintendent of Public Instruction,

FOR THE

TOWN OF LYNDEBOROUGH,

For the Year Ending March 1, 1873.

REPORT.

It affords us unmingled pleasure to report that this year has been one of unusual prosperity. But while we acknowledge this harvest of good things, and can see a marked improvement in our schools, we are not insensible of the fact that all of the inestimable blessings of a properly regulated school system has not been ours to enjoy. Nor is it difficult to produce tangible reasons for this partial failure, when we consider the difficulties yet to be overcome. In submitting to you a detailed report of the condition of the schools we wish to affirm that we shall "nothing extenuate, nor aught set down in malice." It has been my aim to carry out in spirit the golden rule, and in all of our remarks shall lean toward leniency rather than severity. If any difference can be seen in our reports, it is only because, in our estimation, the more faithful are the more worthy of remembrance.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Prudential Committee, Mr. John Richardson.

Teacher of the summer term, Miss Mary F. Richardson of this town.

A native of this district, this teacher proves that some have "honor even in their own country." The school is small and is

composed principally of small scholars, yet they appear very intelligent and active. We visited the school several times during its session and was able to see marked improvement. We regret we were not able to be present at the examination, but hear favorable reports. Length of school nine weeks. Wages of teacher, including board, twenty dollars per month.

Winter Term.

Teacher, Miss Mary F. Richardson.

Miss Richardson is a promising teacher, and the school imbibing the spirit of the leader, as every school will, made happy advancement. The examination was excellent, and we are satisfied that the school has been a perfect success. Length of school, eleven weeks. Wages of teacher per month, twenty-four dollars.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Prudential Committee, Mr. Herrick Hadley.

Teacher, Miss Clara Curtis of this town.

Miss Curtis is a teacher who has had considerable experience, yet we doubt whether ever before she was engaged where she found so many roguish boys and girls to the square foot as she found in this school, yet she met all of these difficulties with a brave heart, labored patiently and well, and "did what she could." The school has been troubled more or less by whispering, and the pupils should learn to study more and whisper less. The school closing rather abruptly on account of sickness of some of the scholars we did not examine the school, hence we cannot speak so definitely of the progress made. Length of school seven weeks. Wages of teacher per month, twenty dollars.

Winter Term.

The winter term was commenced by Mr. John Moles of this town. Mr. Moles is a young man of good principles, and we think intended to do right, but from some cause did not give satisfaction, and thought best after teaching a few days to retire.

Mr. Frank E. Hadley, of Nashua very reluctantly consented to teach the school out, and proved to be just the man for the place. No teacher has given any better satisfaction, and the school in the short term of a few weeks made unusual advancement in all of the classes. The exercises of the examination were excellent, and the recitations and declamations to which we listened the last day of school were of a high order. Length of school, six weeks. Wages of teacher per month, thirty-two dollars.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Prudential Committee, Mr. O. P. Butler.

Teacher, Miss Susan Howard, of Wilton.

Miss Howard came to us highly recommended, and we think gave general satisfaction during the summer term. Although we have seen the school under better discipline, yet we are satisfied that commendable progress was made, and the school appeared well at the examination. We wish we could speak so well of the fall term which was under the care of the same teacher. Not that Miss Howard was any the less faithful in the discharge of her duties, but she had in many respects a different school and far more to contend with than during the summer term. She remarks in the register "we often hear the question, what is the first requisite for a good school? Is it not a good school house, conveniently furnished with chairs, desks, and a black-board extending around the whole room?"

Maps, globe and dictionary are indispensable articles. Having obtained these, a good teacher must be sought for. How can such a one be known? It is one who cares not for dollars and cents, but thinks only of the mental and moral improvement of her pupils. The heart must be in the work. Such teachers knowing first how to govern *themselves* will govern the pupils with kindness and love. Remembering their own childhood's days, making the child's pleasures and sorrows their own, the sympathetic love will cause the child to yield a cheerful obedience, to strive earnestly to master the mysteries of human knowledge. "A faithful *Christian* teacher will not fail." Wages of teacher per month, twenty-eight dollars. Length of terms, eight weeks each. Whole number of scholars thirty-nine. Average, thirty and one-eighth. It gives us pain to report that quite a number in this school are profane, and if this evil, with other decidedly bad and wicked practices are not checked by the united efforts of both parents and teachers, we greatly fear what the result may be.

Winter Term.

Teacher, Mr. Silas B. Dutton, of Francestown.

We do not hesitate to say, that in our opinion the school in this district is by far the most difficult school to properly manage and discipline there is in town. Since our acquaintance with this school we find they have had the best teachers, and yet the most trouble. We believe that teachers and scholars are not *one half* as much to blame as the *parents*. The parents should *see to it* that their children behave well, and find out about these things, not by gossip, nor by what some disaffected scholar may say, but by frequent interviews with the teacher and by frequent visits to the

school-room. We say this in kindness and love, with the fond hope that some may do better by their teachers in the future. The parents do not, as yet, seem to understand how they should co-operate and aid the teacher in sustaining good order in the school. Until they do thus, aid the teacher, they must not expect a first class school. Mr. Dutton may have made mistakes and perhaps have acted rather indiscreetly in some respects, yet we feel confident that he intended to do right, and we cannot conscientiously give him anything *less* than a good report. It is our opinion that in most schools Mr. Dutton would get along without trouble and he must not feel as though "some strange thing had happened," because he experienced some difficulty in restoring proper order out of such confusion. The scarlet fever prevailed to an alarming extent, and at one time the school-room was quite forsaken and presented a very forlorn appearance. Writing received special attention and the writing books never looked better. We were, in some cases, surprised to see the improvement made. The school is yet in session, as the report is made out, so we are not able to speak of the examination.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Prudential Committee. Mr. Asa Hill.

Teacher, Miss Clara F. Dodge, of Francestown.

There was only one term during the year. Miss Dodge is a fine scholar, and with some more experience will become the very best of teachers. She succeeds well by moral suasion and secures the good will of all. The school is in many respects a model school, although quite small as regards number. We were pleased to see so large a number present at the examination, and wish to compliment the parents for the interest they manifest in sustaining a first-class school. Several classes in Arithmetic made manifest the thorough training they had received in this important branch of school education. The class in analysis is also one of decided merit, and appeared as well acquainted with the conjugations and different declensions as they are with the alphabet. We noticed an excellent class in philosophy ready and right on hand for any questions that we might ask. Length of school twelve weeks. Wages of teacher per month, twenty-eight dollars.

DISTRICT NO 5.

Prudential Committee, Mr. John Dolliver.

Teacher, Miss Nellie A. Steele, of this town.

We confess that we were happily disappointed in the result of this school. Miss Steele, though young and inexperienced, con-

ducted the classes with considerable skill and ingenuity. We are sure good improvement was made, and the examination will compare *favorably* with any other examination we attended during the summer schools. The money expended for this school was well invested, and made a good return. Length of school six weeks. Wages of teacher per month sixteen dollars.

Winter Term.

Teacher, Miss Clara Curtis, of this town.

The selection of Miss Curtis, as teacher of this school, was wise, and we are glad to report that she gave "perfect satisfaction" as far as we can learn. All of the classes recited well, and we are pleased to know that this school will soon become one of the best schools in the town if it continues to improve as it has for the past few terms. Length of school six weeks. Wages of teacher per month twenty-six dollars.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

Prudential Committee, Mr. Wells Howard.

Teacher, Miss Eliza H. Spalding, of Wilton.

This teacher needs no commendation from us, for her character is too well established to need any encouragement from our pen. The pupils were under excellent discipline, and the teacher manages to carry sunshine and pleasantness along with her in the discharge of all her duties. This is right, and based upon true principles. Many teachers are not careful to respect the feelings of their pupils, hence they utterly fail to secure their good will and regards. They obey through fear, rather than love. We can see improvement in this school, and was much interested in the closing exercises of the term. Length of school, seven weeks. Wages of teacher per month, twenty-two dollars.

Winter Term.

The same teacher. The general character of the school is the same as of last summer. Good order and general attention to study makes this a very interesting and pleasant school. We find a class of boys and girls here of more than usual ability, and they deserve praise for good recitations and scholarly appearance.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Prudential Committee, Mr. S. N. Hartshorn.

Teacher, Miss Julia A. Dodge, of Francestown.

Miss Dodge has taught several terms before in this town, also in this district with uniform success. We might say much in her praise, for she is the very best of teachers, but we think the better way is to allow the *school* and the improvement *made* to speak for itself. The order of this school is always good, but the general appearance and the character of the recitations is far in advance of what it has been in the past. It was pleasant to notice the improvement made in several classes, especially the class in reading, also in arithmetic, and the analysis. We were not present at the close of the school, but hear that *all* were satisfied, and we would congratulate the parents of this district in thus sustaining a first-class school. We wish that some of the teachers would imitate the example of Miss Dodge in making out their registers with proper neatness and accuracy. Length of school, seven weeks. Wages of teacher per month, twenty-two dollars.

Winter Term.

The same teacher for the winter term seemed just the thing to keep alive the interest awakened in the summer term. All of the large scholars in the district, even to the "regions beyond," seemed to think that now was the time to complete their education, and that they *now* had a leader abundantly able to teach them in all the branches they desired to study. Although the school was much larger than usual, yet order and quietness were the grand characteristics, and the recitations were conducted with more than usual ability. The scholars appear to understand what they have been over, and although the examination occurred on a *very unfavorable* day, yet they were ready for the *why* and *wherefore* that might suggest itself to our minds. It is very pleasant to mention the fact that the teacher was made the recipient of a large silver napkin ring. May it be received, not only on account of its value, but rather as a token of the high esteem and appreciation of her valuable services to the school. *The best coming last.* A subscription school taught by Miss Dodge was commenced immediately at the close of the winter term. This term afforded a rare opportunity of advancement for all who desired to attend, and we feel quite sure that they made a wise improvement of the time. We very much doubt whether that class in parsing can be beat in point of excellence, by any class in the parts, not excepting even the three academy schools on either side. We are sure that Miss Dodge will retire from this school, having won a large circle of warm friends, and the influence she exerts in favor of good morals and religion in any community, will long be felt and appreciated. Length of winter school, nine weeks. Wages of teacher per month, twenty-eight dollars.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

Prudential Committee, Mr. Page L. Spalding.

Teacher, Miss Ella J. Richardson, of this town.

We have never seen this school appear better than it did at the

close of the summer term. Miss Richardson entered upon her duties with a conscious feeling of the responsibilities of her position, and we believe secured the respect of all in the district. An excellent school, and a very satisfactory examination. Length of school five weeks. Wages of teacher per month, sixteen dollars

Winter Term.

The same teacher. The school fully sustained its good name during the winter term. We listened to some very interesting recitations and the scholars appear to take pride in good behavior at school. "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches," and *you*, scholars in No. 8, richly deserve a good name. We shall long remember your cheerful, pleasant countenances, though not always able to call you by name, and the respect you have manifested for us, as we have visited you from time to time, shall never be forgotten. We regret it so happened that we were not present at the close of the school, but can say, that judging from what we could see a few days before its close the school could only be considered as a success. Writing books looked well. Length of school six and two-thirds weeks. Wages of teacher per month, nineteen.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

Prudential Committee, Mr. Jotham Hildreth.

Teacher, Miss Ella J. Richardson.

But one term during the year. A very small school. It is most too small to be interesting, yet after all Miss Richardson labored faithfully and succeeded in awakening considerable life and energy in many of the classes. We think that all was accomplished in a short term that any one could reasonably expect. Length of school nine weeks. Wages of teacher per month, twenty-four dollars.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

Prudential Committee, Mr. Oliver Watkins.

Teacher, Miss Katie E. Kidder.

The union district is wide awake, and the parents alive to the education of the children. The school is very small, yet, after all, more enthusiastic than many of the schools in town. The summer term fell into good hands, and was well cared for by Miss Kidder who is an excellent teacher of youth. We can see that this school is steadily advancing in education, and the exercises of the examination were very satisfactory. Length of school eight weeks. Wages of teacher per month twenty dollars.

Winter Term.

Teacher, Miss Abbie Kidder.

Miss Kidder appears to be familiar with all of the requirements of a good teacher, and a good school. She met with good success, and the recitations were *thorough* and prompt. We regret that we could not be present at the close of the school. We shall say that this school has made the most improvement in writing of any school in the town, and the teacher deserves a word of commendation for the interest she manifested in this very important branch of learning. It was mainly through her untiring and faithful labors that the school made such improvement, and the books were so free from blots. We examined a good many writing books, anxious to find the one who had made the most improvement of several. We found it very difficult to make a selection. The experience of the past has taught us a good lesson. It is this. To do away in the future with the offering of prizes. Length of school ten weeks. Wages of teachers sixteen dollars per month.

REMARKS.

The present survey of schools, though cursory, is a fair statement of the progress made in the education of our youth during the year. We desire to remark that while our schools are not what they ought to be, yet *very much* is being accomplished, and we believe the $962.20 raised to sustain our schools have given us a return in a single year that we shall feel loth to lose for *thousands.* The proper education and moral training of the rising generation! What is there, we ask, of greater or of more vital importance to all of our rights, enjoyments and privileges, as citizens of a free and glorious republic, than the education of the youth. We hear about "retrenchments" but it is our opinion that we can better afford retrenchments in any other direction than in this. Let the work commence in any other way than to strike a blow at our institutions of learning, which are doing so noble a work throughout our land. Let us look for a moment at some of the luxuries of life which we could dispense with as well as not. Let us think of the enormous use of tobacco, and how much we could save every year, should this vile and *worse than useless* narcotic be banished from our midst. We have no reason to doubt the statement made lately in our presence, that could we have the money annually expended in our own town for tobacco, "chewed up or smoked away," we could not only support all of our district schools, but have, in a few years, enough surplus to sustain a high school here in our midst, where the children could, if they desired, receive instruction in all of the higher branches, and be fitted for college without going away to some of

our neighboring towns. How much better would this be, and how much would such a school aid to raise the intelligence of the people and the good character of the place.

As this report may be read by many of our teachers, we would say to them, "magnify your office." Do not think so lightly of your position, for it is a high and sacred calling. It is not enough to be just qualified to ask the questions, and know whether they are answered correctly, but should, we believe, become well acquainted with the principles, and be able to explain satisfactorily to the class anything that may appear hidden and mysterious. We hope we shall not be considered fault-finding and censorious to remark that the more quietly a teacher attends to the school, avoiding everything calculated to create a sensation, the better it is for the school and all connected. We don't like to hear any one say that "our teacher does thus and so (referring to certain inconsistences), and we hardly know how to reply, when we find out the facts of the case are against the teacher. It is our *intention* to *sustain* the teachers, but we do hope that they will ever remember that it is possible for them to throw obstacles in our way.

As we expect so soon to leave the town, it is with sadness and peculiar emotions that we close this report, and part with the many friends with whom we have become acquainted while in the discharge of our duties. We shall long remember your kind co-operation with us, and sincerely thank you all, for the respect and courtesy manifested for us, as we have attempted, in our poor way to look after the interests and welfare of our schools. May all of the inestimable blessings of a properly and well regulated school system soon become yours to enjoy.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ELIAS J. WHITTEMORE.

Superintending School Committee.

LYNDEBORO', March, 1873.

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